are a number of other schemes such as allotment of petroleum product agencies, allotment of Unit Trust of India agency, transportation agencies for coal and petroleum products etc. which can also be taken advantage of by the Pensioners.

(d) Free medical facilities in the Military Hospitals.

(e) Canteen facilities.

(f) In case of need, eligible for financial assistance provided by the KSB, Services Headquarters and other Organisations.

(g) children of those Pensioners who were disabled in action enjoy educational concessions like complete exemption from tution and other fees, hostel charges, cost of books and other stationery, cost of uniform etc. upto first Degree Course.

(h) Provision of artificial limbs and surgical appliances for disabled/War Injury Pensioners.

(i) Special pension of Rs. 50/- per month in case of blinded Pensioners whose blindness is attributable to military service.

(j) Constant Attendance Allowance in appropriate cases irrespective of the rank to War Injury Pensioners.

(k) In addition, there are a number of other welfare measures undertaken by the State Government which are available for the benefit of these Pensioners. The position however, differs from State to State.

[*Translation*]

Trade Agreement with Erstwhile Soviet Republics

1656. KUMARI UMA BHARTI:
SHRI E. AHAMED:
SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY:
SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHONSLE:
DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recent developments in the erstwhile USSR have caused apprehension among the Indian exporters of various commodities;

(b) if so, the commodities which have been adversely affected;

(c) the extent of fall in trade and the loss suffered so far;

(d) whether the Government have made trade agreements with the new Republics;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to make trade agreements with all the Republics?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c). The political and economic uncertainties that the erstwhile Soviet Union underwent had generally an adverse impact on Indian export causing some amount of apprehension and uncertainity to Indian exporters. The exports to erstwhile USSR declined by about Rs. 1198 crores during the period April-Nov., 1991 as compared to April-Nov. 1990 Sectoral performance in the engineering, textiles, leather and mineral and one sectors was low as compared to the 1991 Indo-Soviet Trade Plan provisions.

(d) to (f). Yes, Sir. Trade agreements have already been concluded with kazakistan and Uzbekistan. The Trade Protocol with Russia has also been signed. Discussions have also been held eight the Republics of Ukraine, Belarus and Azerbaijan.